

NEW YORK HERALD

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JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 126

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET OPERA HOUSE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.

PIQUE, at 8 P. M. Fannie Davenport.

HOWE & CUSHING'S CIRCUS.

at 2 P. M. and 8 P. M.

GLOBE THEATRE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

WOODS' MUSEUM.

ROBBERS OF PYRENEES, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

MURRAY'S CIRCUS.

afternoon and evening.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.

at 8 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.

LONDON ASSURANCE, at 8 P. M. Lester Wallack.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.

HENRY V., at 8 P. M. George Rigold. Rigold's Bene- fit, at 2 P. M.

MARION TEMPLE.

PROFESSOR CROMWELL'S ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.

NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

BARNUM'S SHOW, at 2 P. M.

TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.

FERRIOL, at 8 P. M. C. R. Thorne, Jr.

RAULE THEATRE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.

ORCHESTRA, QUARTET AND CHORUS, at 8 P. M.

PARK THEATRE.

BRASS, at 8 P. M. George Pascoli. Rose.

GERMANIA THEATRE.

DAS MILAENDICHEN AUS SCHONBERG, at 8 P. M.

at 8 P. M. KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS.

at 8 P. M.

CHATEAU MARILLÉ VARIETIES.

at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

HUMPTY DUMPTY, at 8 P. M.

THEATRE FRANÇAIS.

MONSIEUR ALPHONSE, at 8 P. M.

PARISIAN VARIETIES.

at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

ROBERTY THEATRE.

ACROSS THE CONTINENT, at 8 P. M.

STEINWAY HALL.

AP TOMMAS, at 8 P. M.

The Aspects of the Canvass—The Opportunities and Perils of the Democratic Party.

We could wish for many reasons that the democratic party might win the next canvass for the Presidency; for, while we do not believe in the dishonesty of parties as organizations, we think that the radical change that would thus come would be a benefit. We say we do not believe in the dishonesty of parties as such, because men are honest and dishonest from other than political reasons. We have no doubt that there are as many rogues in one party as the other. The rogues generally keep themselves in line with the party that is in power. If there was a chance of democratic success we should find the whiskey and Indian thieves shifting ground with precision and energy. But the country demands just such a change as would be seen in the event of the accession of a new party to power. As matters now stand there is a chance of the democratic party winning. We say a chance, for we have never believed in the vitality of the "tidal wave," as it was called, of last year. A "tidal wave" in politics is not to be relied upon. We had a "tidal wave" during the war, in the year when Seymour was elected Governor and when Indiana and Pennsylvania swung around under the democratic banner against the administration of Mr. Lincoln. It looked for a time as if the war was to be paralyzed by the success of the democratic party in the great States of the North. But the next year the republicans recovered their power, and they have kept it ever since, excepting the defeat of last year. As we showed at the time that defeat might become a warning to the republicans, which they might utilize for a further victory. The republican party has this immense advantage—it is the party of the war, the party around which clusters the brightest memories of the generation. It is a party of sentiment, formed by the enthusiasm of the young men who fought for the Union. It is a party of noble achievements. We owe to it largely emancipation and the preservation of the Union. It has given us some of the noblest names in our history. More than all, it has the prestige and discipline of power. In any canvass such a party enters the fight with a hundred advantages in its favor. Therefore our democratic friends, if they mean to win this government at the next election, must not count on an easy victory. The strength of the republican party was never shown so clearly as in the vote of New Hampshire after the exposure of Belknap. That extraordinary and humiliating event, covering, as it did, the whole administration with shame, did not affect the republican vote in this most inflexible State. It may be, and perhaps it is, the wisest plan to limit the democratic canvass to the one question of "reform in the government." But we question if a cry like this will satisfy the country any more than the sentimental platform of Bell and Everett, in 1860, which embodied "the Union, the constitution and the enforcement of the laws." There could be no more romantic platform, but the country wanted something it could bite, and so it took Lincoln, who had a meaning in his canvass—a terrible meaning, also—as events proved. If the opponents of Lincoln had united upon some tangible platform it is possible that the war might have been averted and the Union as it was preserved. Without dwelling upon that painful and dreary speculation there is this lesson to be learned—the democrats must go before the country with a platform that does not ignore the active sentiment of the country, and the country was never more active in political discussion than now. The questions which the advocates of a "reform" platform would ignore are the very questions which the country will decide in the election of a President. First, we have the South. This is a tremendous issue and cannot be overlooked. What are we going to do with the South? Are we to allow it to pass into the hands of thieves and adventurers on the one hand, or those of men on the other who, having seen the negro emancipated, mean to reduce him into a state of political slavery? Then as to the finances. What are we to do with our credit, our currency and our revenues? Is the democracy to speak on that question with the voice of Tilden or with the voice of Allen? We have the school and church question. We believe that sensible men on both sides feel that this should have no place in our politics. But sensible men do not make Presidents. The question is in our politics, and we must notice it.

These are questions which the democrats must meet at the next canvass. It is a mistake to allow any controversy to spring up in Congress that will prevent the wise men of the party taking patriotic ground on them all. Look at the blunder in attacking the war record of Governor Morton, of Indiana. There is not a child in the public schools old enough to read who does not know about that record, and how brilliant and brave it was. Yet the democrats invite from Morton one of the most conclusive and damaging speeches of the canvass. It may be said that Morton, with the art of a politician, shaped the issue for his own benefit. But this does not excuse them. It is no democrat's business to pull Morton's chestnuts out of the Presidential fire. Morton goes before the country in a speech of singular ability and adroitness as "defending the Union from the assaults of the copperheads." As such this speech will be read over the whole country. Nor do we see that good is coming out of the investigation of the manner in which the federal officers punished election frauds in New York. Thus far the advantage in that investigation is with Grant and his friends. It cannot be denied that never in the history of a free government were there such shameful frauds as those which destroyed the franchise in New York and gave this city and State to Tweed and his gang. The democratic House goes before the country in the attitude of impeaching Grant for spending a few thousands of dollars to stop the frauds of Tweed. And we shall have the administration papers in a little while saying that the democratic majority is sustaining Tweed and Tweedism. Nor is anything to be gained by connecting and nail-paring legislation, or by small business in dealing with

the appropriations. Grant's veto of the bill reducing the President's salary was a much more popular measure with the sensible people of this country than any act of the present Congress. Let the economy in the House be in an honest direction—in the reduction of the army and the navy, in the management of the Indians and in the suppression of rings around the Treasury and the Post Office. There is no people who have less of cant and nonsense about them than the Americans, and no piousness policy will ever be popular with them in the long run.

Our advice to the democrats is to press their investigations in all directions where there has been expenditure of money. Take up the Mullett and Shepherd contracts in public buildings. Go into the Indian supply business. Inquire into the Alaska fur monopoly and the failure of civil service. Investigate the Attorney General's office and the moiety business. Do not be led off by republicans to investigate the suppression of the rebellion and the prevention of fraud. The democrats might as well investigate the battle of Gettysburg on the ground that murders had been committed there by armed republicans. Insist upon the negroes in the South being treated with political equality. Do not let us have a revolution like that which upset the Kellogg government two years ago, or the moral revolution which drove out Ames from Mississippi—a transaction which, we think, will have an unpleasant prominence, so far as the democrats are concerned, before we are through with it. Let us have a clear platform on the currency question. Let the democrats take ground on questions which the republicans on their part are shirking, and about which the country feels a deep interest. Here is the one term amendment which is very popular—an amendment which involves fundamental principles of the government. It was upon this issue as much as any other that the democrats won the "tidal wave" canvass. They cannot afford to drop it now without giving the country an impression of insincerity. Then, as to the church question. Let the democrats take that manfully by accepting the plan proposed by Mr. Blaine, which he threw out as a firebrand, and which wisdom would have prompted a sagacious democrat to at once adopt. This is a ground upon which both parties can meet, and in doing so drive the religious question forever out of politics. Let some man be nominated for the Presidency whose name will be a guarantee of patriotic and conservative rule. Such a candidate on a platform like this—a platform liberal, wise, prudent and, at the same time, bold and progressive—a platform of ideas like what we should expect from the successors of Jefferson, would win the confidence of the country. The canvass is in a peculiar condition; the country is disgusted with the republicans and at the same time afraid to trust the democrats. It would change captains to-morrow if it did not fear that the captain might have a crew that would insist upon his shooting Niagara. Let our friends in the democratic majority carefully suppress these "Niagara shooters" and show the country that it would be just as safe in their control as in that of the republicans. The result, we are convinced, would be a democratic administration. The way to do this is not to give Morton a chance to say to the country that the democrats mean to punish him for his devotion to the Union in its dark days, or to allow Grant to complain that he is censured for suppressing the election frauds of Tweed.

Barbados and the British West Indies. It is a little difficult to understand why the scheme of confederation of the Windward Islands should provoke any real trouble in Barbados, or that Governor Hennessey, in seeking to promote it, should be accused of encouraging sedition and setting class against class. A closer scrutiny of the condition of the British West Indies may explain them. In spite of Exeter Hall and the English abolition societies, which are more hated in the West Indies now than when slavery was formally abolished, there is practical servitude in these islands to-day. In Jamaica the landowners hold on to their lands when emancipation made it impossible for them to work their plantations, and rather than permit the crookes to become owners of the soil most of the estates were practically abandoned. Thousands of acres in that fruitful island have not been tilled for nearly half a century, and the whole cause of the degradation of the people of Jamaica and the decline in prosperity of the country was owing to the stubborn dog-in-the-manger policy pursued by the planters. If an opportunity had been afforded to the colored people of the island to acquire land and a real interest in the country Jamaica would to-day be the most prosperous of the Antilles. In Demerara the planters have been attempting to remedy the inconveniences of the abolition of slavery by a different kind of servitude, and the East Indian coolies in that country are little above the condition of slaves. Barbados is the exception in the sea is under cultivation. The lands are in the hands of the few, and it is necessary for all to work who would eat. As a matter of course there is much oppression; and the ruling class is extremely jealous of any attempt on the part of the workmen to better their condition. This explains the hostility to any liberality toward the poor people by Governor Hennessey, the absurdity of the planters against sedition, and the exaggerated reports of outrages and crime on the part of the negroes. It enables us also to read the version of the troubles, which comes to us this morning by way of Kingston, between the lines, and will excite more sympathy for Governor Hennessey and his cause, both in this country and in England, than anything that has yet been said on the subject.

THERE IS MUCH OPPOSITION to the selling of liquor at the Centennial Exhibition, and the question was to have been decided by the Commissioners yesterday, but it was indefinitely postponed. We presume this means that liquor will be sold according to the agreements already made with dealers who have acquired rights in the grounds for this purpose.

City Politics—The New Alliance.

The New York Times, in the course of an indignant article on the results of the late Legislature, arraigns the republican party in this State for one of the most corrupt bargains ever made in our politics. As the Times is the republican organ it of course speaks by authority:—"Thanks to the republican Legislature," says the Times, "the Park Department will pass, within a week or two, under the absolute control of Tammany Hall; the same organization will be able to trade in advance upon the vast influence of the finance department," meaning that Wickham can name some man in the place of Green. "The law department will be open for another Tammany appointee in November." "By the supineness of the majority of republicans in the Legislature and the jobbery of our new set of Tammany republican office-holders and their allies at Albany" the republicans will lose the fruits of a victory even if they won in November.

The Times must, of course, deal with its people in its own way. But we have a general interest in the meaning of these combinations. Why should the republicans, who are able men, give so much power to John Kelly? They are not men to throw away a single chance in the struggle for power. What consideration has John Kelly paid or promised for this surrender of so much patronage? He must have done something for his republican allies. The republicans would not throw away the control of this rich and great city for a song or a promise. The only question which interests the republicans more than the control of New York is the control of the United States. Now, it will be remembered that at the election when Mr. Greeley was a candidate the republicans obtained a large democratic support here by means of a trade, which was not carried out in the best of faith so far as they were concerned, but which gave Grant great strength. Are we to infer that the republicans and Kelly have made a trade of this kind—the democrats to have the city and the republicans to have the support of the democrats for the control of the State? If it does not mean this what does it mean? The avowed of the Times, coming, as they do, from the official republican organ, and impugning, as they do, the good faith of the republican leaders, cannot be whistled down the wind. There has been some trade, some knavery, and we are interested in knowing what it all means. Probably General Husted, who is denounced by the Times, may be able to tell us.

Our Dear Old Friend, "The Special."

On Tuesday, the 18th of April, Mr. Henry Irving, the celebrated English actor, appeared in London in Tennyson's play, "Queen Mary." It was a theatrical event of world wide interest, because of the author, the actors and the theme. On Thursday, May 4, we have in a contemporary a charming criticism of this performance, written with taste and knowledge—a fine bit of "special correspondence." The account would be a contribution to journalism but for one thing. The HERALD, on April 23, published a criticism three columns long, containing not only all the critical opinions of the accomplished writer, but most interesting details important to womenkind, especially as to how the parts were dressed and the stage was set. In other words, the HERALD printed a complete picture of the event just as our contemporary does now. The correspondents of the two journals were present and did their office faithfully. The difference is that the HERALD sent its account by cable, while the other came by mail. The further difference is that, while the morning after the performance of a play by Tennyson all lovers of the drama would be curious to know how it succeeded, no one cares now that the event is two weeks old. A criticism upon Mr. Irving as Philip is about as newsworthy as a criticism of Hazlitt on Edmund Kean. It is not news, but literature.

This only shows that the cable has destroyed the usefulness of the dear old special. His work is done. Let him write never so well, let him turn his periods with never so graceful a flourish, let him give his views, his recollections, his learning and his hopes—who really cares? It is so old a story. Everybody read it days before in the HERALD. Although lovers of polite literature may lament the change, and look back to the good old time when people wrote at their leisure and there was room for gifted men to discourse about Shakespeare and the musical glasses, we are very well content as it is.

Long Distance International Contests at Saratoga.

The race between the three fastest university forces of Europe and the three fastest of America seems (thanks largely to the energy of the regatta committee and its chairman, Captain Rees), to be in an excellent way of accomplishment, and great and widespread as was the interest in the Oxford-Harvard match in fours on the Thames in 1869, it promises to be completely eclipsed. And now the door is opened for a meeting never before possible in the annals of aquatic, one which, for brilliancy, thoroughness and satisfactoriness of test and valuable results, will justify prove an event long to be remembered. On the second day following the international university struggle let Saratoga throw open on her magnificent track a race for the chosen amateur oarsmen of the world. The prizes need not, indeed had better not, be costly; a laurel wreath was ample in ancient struggles for the mastery. America has no other such course. Boathouses are already erected. No other place has been nearly so successful in handling great regattas, nor can approach it in comfortable accommodations for thousands of visitors, while the stranger crews will train in a popular watering place, far north and high among the hills, thus avoiding the oppressive, almost intolerable heat of Philadelphia during the fierce August dog days, until the few days they will need to spend in the latter place in learning the Centennial course. Then, side by side with Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin, Cornell, Columbia and Harvard will start the London rowing men and Royal Chesters, the picked teams of Germany, France and Belgium, the Argonauts, Atalantas and Neptunes, Buffaloes, Beaverwicks and Walwh-

sums, all masters at the oar, all fit to row a

terrible race over the three whole miles till across the finish line. Then most interesting questions will be settled. Then we shall know beyond cavil who are the better oarsmen—the student amateurs or the non-student; who are the faster—the English university men or the American; which country has really learned to best combine skill, speed and stay at the oar; after long years of waiting we shall at last see the famous English stroke with our own eyes and no longer at second hand, and, greatest of all, on a track superbly fitted for an absolutely fair test—tideless, currentless, straight and lanced—it will be clearly proved who are the fastest gentlemen oarsmen in the world. On the next day bring the great professionals together likewise, and thus, in the greatest racing week any of us will ever see, it may be found that the best oarsmen in the world are not professionals, do not live by the Thames or Tyne, but again at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, or may be, better yet, by the little Kill Von Kull.

The Dramatic Season.

We are coming to the end of our winter pageantries and amusements, and perhaps it is just as well, considering that we are to have a "grand national pageant," to use a circus phrase, for the Centennial, with contributions and star performers from all the world, England and Spain and even Japan and China taking part. Whether the Centennial performance will take the world away from New York we do not know. But we are not afraid. It was said that the Moody and Sankey revival would put an end to all amusements, and that we should all take to singing "Hold the Fort" and kindred lyrics. But it was found that the circus was never so attractive as after a revival. We have no more fear of the Centennial as a counter attraction than of the revivals. There will be a good deal of hard work about the Centennial, and the sight-seer will soon tire of a world of machinery and pictures, and exhibits of coal and iron and soap and quartz. The Centennial managers even feel this, as we hear of all manner of auxiliary attractions, in the way of soldiers and races, parades and manifestations of patriotism.

Still the season is going to the end very rapidly. Mr. Daly is in the last days of "Pique," which has been a Sylvanus Cobb, Jr., sensation, thrilling and harrowing. Jarrett & Palmer are coming to the end of their campaign at Agincourt, which, considering that it is a second campaign, shows the power of Shakespeare's genius, even as a spectacle. Mr. Rigold will always be remembered as the scholarly actor of a difficult and trying part, and Mr. Thorne as having contributed to our stage in Fluellan a character as marked as Rip Van Winkle.

At the Union Square we have the continued success of French comedy, mounted with sumptuous taste and rewarded with undying success. We are to have another experiment at the Union Square in the way of an American drama, which we trust will have a better fate than "Twins." We believe in the American drama, and feel sure that if our managers will only keep on in their work they will strike a bonanza in time, a dramatic Comstock lode, which will make all their fortunes. It is a mistake to suppose that in a country as full of character as ours we should not have a dramatic fund of originality and humor. So we honor the Union Square people for their courage in standing by the country and its dramatists after the failure of the experiment at Wallack's.

Speaking of Wallack's, we have to note the continued success of that famous and meritorious house. In "London Assurance" we have a splendid comedy superbly played. Miss Dyns has added a new laurel to her overladen crown by the spirit and genius she throws into the part of Lady Gay Spanker. Mr. Wallack, who is the best Charles Courtley on the stage, shows what he can do with the ingenious but uncongenial part of Dazzle. We wish Mr. Montague comprehended the part of Charles Courtley, and it would be a kindness for Mr. Wallack to tell him what it really means. But he continues on the ascending wave of a popularity which his real merits as a faithful actor deserve. The lesson to be learned from the success of Wallack—and this we commend to Max Strakosch and the managers who are ever explaining why they fail—is that good plays will always bring large houses, and once that a theatre wins the reputation of always doing the best things in the best manner it will win renown and that popularity which brings money as well as renown.

OPEN OUR PARKS.—The Central Park is beginning to put on its spring robes and this leads us to say to those who have it in charge that it should be made a park and not a picture. The trouble with our public places like the Park is that we regard them as ornaments and not pleasure grounds. The Central Park was intended to be for the people what the country gentleman's lawn is to its owner—a place for amusement and occupation and healthful recreation. This idea of closing the grass reservations to all but the mowers, of limiting the visitors to narrow paths, is a mistake and violates the principal idea of a park. Why not throw the Park open to the cricket players and the base ball clubs? The result would be an attraction that would make the Park more in harmony with the spirit which prompted the City Fathers to give it to us. Let the spring open with a liberal policy so far as this and all of our parks are concerned, and it will make the commission, which already stands so well with the people, much more popular.

COACHING.—The fact that Mr. Delancey Kane's coach has all its seats reserved for a month ahead shows the interest that is taken in this innocent and honest recreation. Our reporters note as a singular evidence of the zeal which Mr. Kane throws into his work that the time tables of the coach are as regularly observed as on a railway. It would not surprise us to hear that the people in the upper part of the island were timing their clocks by the coach as a chronometer. A more generous amusement we have never known than coaching, and we welcome it as an addition to our stock of amusements—as a contribution to our methods of civilization. We trust to see a half dozen coaches running out of New York every day to the Hudson.

the Palisades, the Sound, Coney Island, the sea and the Monmouth coast, and if, as some enthusiastic writer proposes, we could have a coach running to Philadelphia to the Centennial, it would be a brilliant, but, we are afraid, to think a tiresome ride, at least for one day.

Our Old Folks.

The other day we printed an interesting conversation with the venerable Cook St. John, of this State, in which he gave many pleasant details of his experiences in this city and elsewhere nearly a century ago. Mr. St. John never saw General Washington, although he was born as early as 1773, and was in Norwalk, Conn., when the Father of his Country passed through that place on his way to New York. To-day we give an interview with Mrs. Mary Reynolds MacDonald, who has still a vivid recollection of Washington and his appearance. "I know just how he looked," she said, "for I used to sit hours and hours and see his picture, and his every feature is impressed upon my mind." Some of these recollections are exceedingly quaint. Mr. St. John related a curious story of Arnold and his colored servant, and of the bribe money which the traitor concealed and the negro unearthed. Not less quaint is Mrs. MacDonald's recollection of the watermelon which a Pennsylvania farmer provided for one of Washington's Christmas dinners, or Judge Bibb's reminiscences of Lafayette's visit to Alabama in 1824. All these things are not very important, perhaps, but their sources and their quaintness lend them an interest which must yield pleasure to many readers, especially at this time, when everything relating to our revolutionary leaders has a freshness which only the centennial of our national independence can give it.

POLITICS AND INDUSTRY.—President Mahon will scarcely be reached by the intrigue on foot in Paris to induce him to withhold the money voted for sending French workmen to Philadelphia. It is pretended by those who urge this step that there is danger that the workmen will give more attention to politics while in this country than to the more legitimate objects of the visit. If they should while here give some attention to politics it will do them no harm. Should they discover that our political system, in spite of many defects, is the most admirable product of the country, and report on their return that it seemed to them the thing most worthy imitation of all that they saw, they would probably horrify none but reactionary despots. This expression of a fear that these visitors will study our politics is an indication of how ignorant the average deputy is of our institutions. If they wish French workmen to learn thoroughly that civil liberty and communism are totally different things this is the place to send them; but this fact the deputies do not know. Doubtless the movement referred to in the despatch is the reply of the conservative party to the Hugo demonstration. It is a pity that this envoy of workmen should have become a party question, but since it has it is at least satisfactory that it is favored by the stronger party.

THE ARGUMENT on the question of the jurisdiction of the Senate in the Belknap impeachment trial was begun yesterday, Mr. Montgomery Blair addressing the Court in opposition and Mr. Lord on the part of the managers of the House of Representatives. No great ability was displayed on either side, and we fear the question is not to be argued with the ability adequate to its importance.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Texas peaches are blushing.

New Englanders are populating Arizona.

Justice Miller, of the Supreme Court, is called a dark horse.

The St. Louis Republican compares Blaine with Winlow.

William Penn is about to be investigated by a Congressional bee.

The Oswego (N. Y.) Palladium is enthusiastic for Seymour.

The San Francisco Bulletin calls Conkling "grand, peculiar, purple."

Before election a man is in the hands of his friends; afterward they are in his.

Three hundred alligators are en route to the Centennial as specimens of Florida fruit.